

Message Text

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15

ACTION ARA-20

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OAS, PFOR, PA

SUBRICT: OAS SECRETARY GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN

1. AT CLOSE OF CONVERSATION ON UNRELATED SUBJECT
SEPTEMBER 12, HUGO SAGUIER, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS
DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND TREATIES,
VOLUNTEERED THE FOLLOWING GOP ESTIMATE ON GOVERNMENT
POSITIONS REGARDING ELECTION OF A NEW OAS SECRETARY
GENERAL NEXT APRIL:

(A) SAPENA PASTOR - TEN VOTES ABSOUTELY FIRM ON THE
FIRST BALLOT: PARAGUAY, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, URUGUAY,
ARGENTINA, CHILE, NICARAGUA: GUATEMALA, EL SALVADOR, AND
HAITI.

(B) GOMEZ BERGES - SIX VOTES COMMITTED: DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, MEXICO, PANAMA, COSTA
RICA, AND VENEZUELA.

(C) UNCOMMITTED: BARBADOS, JAMACA, COLOMBIA, ECUADOR,
PERU, UNITED STATES AND HONDURAS.

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(D) SAGUIER INDICATED GOP STILL EXPECTS USG SUPPORT

AND BELIEVES THAT HONDURAS IS LEANING TOWARD
SAPENA PASTOR. HE SAID HE WAS POSITIVE THAT
COLOMBIA, ECUADOR, AND PERU WERE STILL ON THE
FENCE.

2. SAGUIER NOTED THAT, WHILE THE GOP ESTIMATE WAS THAT
SAPENA PASTOR PRESENTLY LACKED TWO VOTES FOR ELECTION,
THE POSSIBILITY THAT CUBA MIGHT BE ADMITTED BEFORE APRIL
WOULD, AS HE INTERPRETED OAS REGULATIONS, INCREASE THE
NUMBER OF VOTES NECESSARY FOR ELECTION FROM 12 TO 13.
HE SAID THAT THE ADMISSION OF CUBA WOULD WORK AGAINST
SAPENA PASTOR'S CHANCES SINCE IT WOULD BE AN ADDITIONAL
CERTAIN OPPOSING VOTE.

3. ACCORDING TO SAGUIER THE GOP WAS DETERMINED TO
OPPOSE ALL SUGGESTIONS OF COMPROMISE CANDIDACIES TO KEEP
THE CAMPAIGN A TWO-MAN CONTEST BETWEEN SAPENA PASTOR AND
GOMEZ BERGES.
LANDAU

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED.

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